

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval device ~~having a multi-call function allowing use of a plurality of connection methods~~ for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, ~~under a suitable connection method, the said~~ content retrieval device comprising:

a browser section ~~for generating~~ operable to generate a retrieval request specifying locational information of content data to be retrieved presently;

a protocol control section operable to select, prior to reception of the content data, for determining a suitable connection method for the content data specified by said browser section from among a plurality of connection methods by using of a multi-call function prior to reception of the content data; and

a communication control section ~~for receiving~~ operable to receive the content data specified by said browser section from ~~said the~~ server under the connection method selected determined by said protocol control section.

2. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and connection method information indicating a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data,

said browser section ~~extracts~~ is operable to extract the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the ~~received~~ content data received by said communication control section, and to then generates-generate a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said protocol control section ~~determines~~ is operable to select a suitable connection method for reception of the sub-content data specified by said browser section based on the connection method information extracted by said browser section.

3. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data,

~~the said~~ content retrieval device further comprises a connection information management section ~~for managing~~ operable to manage a connection information table ~~including which includes~~ a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data,

said browser section ~~extracts~~ is operable to extract a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data and ~~holds~~ hold the set as internal information, and to then ~~generates~~ generate a retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said protocol control section ~~determines~~ is operable to select a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by, upon reception of the retrieval request generated by said browser section, receiving the file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the retrieval request from said browser section, and to then ~~extracting~~ extract the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute received from said browser section from said connection information management section.

4. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in ~~said the~~ server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data,

~~the said~~ content retrieval device further comprises a connection information management section ~~for managing~~ operable to manage a connection information table ~~including which includes~~ a description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data, and

said protocol control section ~~determines~~ is operable to select a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by, upon reception of the retrieval request

generated by said browser section, receiving the suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the retrieval request from said connection information management section.

5. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval device according to claim 1, wherein ~~said the~~ server is ~~capable of transmitting~~ is operable to transmit a content header including a file attribute of ~~the~~ content data, ~~as well as in addition to the~~ content data,

~~the said~~ content retrieval device further comprises a connection information management section ~~for managing~~ operable to manage a connection information table ~~including which includes~~ a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data,

said browser section ~~generates~~ is operable to generate a first retrieval request specifying locational information of ~~the~~ content data to be retrieved presently,

~~upon reception of the first retrieval request generated by said browser section,~~ said protocol control section ~~generates~~ is operable to generate, upon reception of the first retrieval request generated by said browser section, a second retrieval request for retrieving a content header of the content data specified in the first retrieval request,

said communication control section ~~receives~~ is operable to receive the content header specified in the second retrieval request generated by said protocol control section, and

said protocol control section ~~determines~~ is operable to select a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received by said communication control section from said connection information management section.

6. (Currently Amended) A content retrieval method for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, ~~under a suitable connection method among a plurality of connection methods by use of a multi-call function,~~ the said method comprising the steps of:

generating a content retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

~~selecting, prior to reception of the content data, determining~~ a suitable connection method ~~for prior to reception of the content data specified by said step of generating of the a-content retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function;~~ and

receiving the content data specified by said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request from ~~said the~~ server under the connection method ~~selected determined~~ by said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method.

7. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval method according to claim 6, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data,

said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ a suitable connection method based on the connection method information extracted by said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request.

8. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval method according to claim 6, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data,

a connection information table ~~including which includes a~~ description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance,

said ~~step of generating a of the~~ content retrieval request extracts a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content

data and holds the set as internal information, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

~~said step of determining a~~ selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines-selects a~~ suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of generating a~~ of the content retrieval request, receiving the file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the content retrieval request from said ~~step of generating a~~ of the content retrieval request, and then extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute received from said ~~step of generating a~~ of the content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

9. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval method according to claim 6, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in ~~said the~~ server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data,

a connection information table ~~including which includes a~~ description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data is managed in advance, and

~~said step of determining a~~ selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines-selects a~~ suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection modes by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of generating a~~ of the content retrieval request, extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

10. (Currently Amended) The content retrieval method according to claim 6, wherein ~~said the~~ server is ~~capable of transmitting operable to transmit~~ a content header including a file attribute of content data, ~~as well as~~ in addition to the content data,

a connection information table including description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance[[,]];

wherein said the method further comprises ~~the steps of~~:

~~upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said step of generating a content retrieval request, generating, upon reception of the content retrieval requested generated by said generating of the content retrieval request, a header retrieval request for retrieving a content header of the content data specified in the content retrieval request; and~~

receiving the content header specified in the header retrieval request generated by ~~the step of said generating a~~ of the header retrieval request from ~~said the server; [[,]]~~ and wherein said step of determining a selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received by said ~~step of receiving of~~ the content header from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

11. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium on which recorded is a program for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network, ~~under a suitable connection method among a plurality of connection methods by use of a multi-call function, the said method comprising the steps of:~~

generating a content retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

~~selecting, prior to reception of the content data, determining~~ a suitable connection method ~~for prior to reception of the content data specified by said step of generating of the a content retrieval request from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function; and~~

receiving the content data specified by said ~~step of generating of the a content retrieval request from said the server under the connection method selected determined by said step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method.

12. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is

linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data,

said ~~step of~~ generating of the a-content retrieval request extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ s a suitable connection method based on the connection method information extracted by said ~~step of~~ generating of the a-content retrieval request.

13. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data,

a connection information table including which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance,

said ~~step of~~ generating a of the content retrieval request extracts a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data and holds the set as internal information, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of~~ generating a of the content retrieval request, receiving the file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the content retrieval request from said ~~step of~~ generating a of the content retrieval request, and then extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute received from said ~~step of~~ generating a of the content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

14. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium according to claim 11, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in ~~said the~~ server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data,

a connection information table ~~including which includes a~~ description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data is managed in advance, and said ~~step of determining a~~ selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines~~ selects a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection modes by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of generating a~~ of the content retrieval request, extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

15. (Currently Amended) A program-recorded recording medium according to claim 11, wherein ~~said the~~ server is ~~capable of transmitting~~ operable to transmit a content header including a file attribute of content data, ~~as well as~~ in addition to the content data,

a connection information table including description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance[[,]]; wherein said the method further comprises ~~the steps of:~~

~~upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said step of generating a content retrieval request, generating, upon reception of the content retrieval requested generated by said generating of the content retrieval request,~~ a header retrieval request for retrieving a content header of the content data specified in the content retrieval request; and

receiving the content header specified in the header retrieval request generated by ~~the step of said~~ generating a of the header retrieval request from ~~said the~~ server;[[,]] and ~~wherein said step of determining a~~ selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines~~ selects a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header

received by said ~~step of receiving~~ of the content header from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

16. (Currently Amended) A program for retrieving content data from a server via a communication network ~~under a suitable connection method among a plurality of connection methods by use of a multi-call function, the said~~ program comprising the steps of:

generating a content retrieval request specifying locational information of the content data to be retrieved presently;

selecting, prior to reception of the content data, determining a suitable connection method ~~for prior to reception of the content data specified by said step of generating of the a-content retrieval request~~ from among a plurality of connection methods by using a multi-call function; and

receiving the content data specified by said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request from ~~said the~~ server under the connection method selected ~~determined~~ by said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method.

17. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 16, wherein the content data includes locational information of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data and a connection method which is suitable for each of the sub-content data,

said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request extracts the locational information and the connection method information of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines-selects~~ a suitable connection method based on the connection method information extracted by said ~~step of generating of the a-content~~ retrieval request.

18. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 16, wherein the content data includes locational information and a file attribute of each of sub-content data which is linked to the content data,

a connection information table including which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance,

said ~~step of~~generating ~~a of the~~ content retrieval request extracts a set of the locational information and the file attribute of each of the sub-content data by analyzing the received content data and holds the set as internal information, and then generates a content retrieval request specifying the locational information of the sub-content data to be retrieved presently, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of~~generating ~~a of the~~ content retrieval request, receiving the file attribute pairing with the locational information specified in the content retrieval request from said ~~step of~~generating ~~a of the~~ content retrieval request, and then extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute received from said ~~step of~~generating ~~a of the~~ content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

19. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 16, wherein locational information is allocated to the content data for indicating a storage location of the content data in ~~said the~~ server, part of the locational information representing a feature of the content data,

a connection information table including which includes a description of a suitable connection method in association with the feature of the content data is managed in advance, and

said ~~step of determining a selecting of the~~ suitable connection method ~~determines selects~~ a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection modes by, upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said ~~step of~~generating ~~a of the~~ content retrieval request, extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the part of the locational information included in the content retrieval request from ~~said the~~ connection information table.

20. (Currently Amended) A program according to claim 16, wherein ~~said the~~ server is ~~capable of transmitting operable to transmit~~ a content header including a file attribute of content data, ~~as well as~~ in addition to the content data,

a connection information table including description of a suitable connection method in association with the file attribute of the content data is managed in advance[[,]];

wherein said the method further comprises ~~the steps of~~:

~~upon reception of the content retrieval request generated by said step of generating a content retrieval request,~~ generating, upon reception of the content retrieval requested generated by said generating of the content retrieval request, a header retrieval request for retrieving a content header of the content data specified in the content retrieval request; and

receiving the content header specified in the header retrieval request generated by ~~the step of said generating a of the~~ header retrieval request from ~~said the~~ server;[[,]] and

wherein said step of determining a selecting of the suitable connection method ~~determines~~ selects a suitable connection method from among a plurality of connection methods by extracting the suitable connection method pairing with the file attribute included in the content header received by said ~~step of receiving of~~ the content header from ~~said the~~ connection information table.